of the State Govemment for the development of small and tiny sector in the state.

(b) During the past three years 5955 persons have been provided training under entrepreneurial, managerial and technical skill development programmes, specialised training in footwear design and manufacturing through CAD/CAM. During this period a total number of 3000 prospective entrepreneurs were also trained. The RTC conducted tests of 33917 samples of various small and tiny sector products for Bureau of Indian Standards certification. The CFTI imparted training to 764 persons and also rendered common facilities for 179 jobs. 151 units have already become operational in the IID Centres under implementation in Tamil Nadu. 146 SSI units in Tamil Nadu have received Rs. 94.01 lakhs as incentives from Central Government for ISO 9000 certification. 150 participants received training under ISO 9000 Awareness Programmes conducted by the SISI and the RTC, Chennai. The NSIC provided assistance worth Rs. 165.91 crores to 1245 units in Tamil Nadu under its various Schemes/ 'Programmes. The NSIC also provided common facility services to 2135 units and imparted training to 3293 trainees.

Central Manpower Export Promotion Council

*168. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Govemment proposes to set up a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council to encourage regulated international gateway for Indian workers going abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether several Indian workers are duped by unscrupulous agents abroad; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to provide adequate employment protection to the Indian workers abroad?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI SAHIB SINGH VERMA): (a) and (b) The Government proposes to set up a Central Manpower Export Promotion Council and Indian Overseas Workers' Welfare Fund by amending the Emigration Act, 1983.The primary functions of the Council

will be to promote employment opportunities for emigrants, project manpower services that India can offer in major labour markets abroad, collection and maintain statistics and information regarding persons seeking employment in various countries and related matters, administer the indian Overseas Workers' Welfare Fund, maintain liaison with other export promotion agencies and recommend to the Central Government about standards and guidelines for overseas employment.

(c) and (d) The Emigration Act, 1983, regulates employment of Indian citizens in foreign countries on contractual basis and seeks to protect and safeguard the interest of the emigrant workers. Sporadic complaints are received with regard to cheating by unscrupulous agents abroad. Whenever such complaints are received, the concerned Indian Missions are requested to resolve the disputes of the aggrieved workers immediately with the help of the appropriate Government/Sponsors. Also, the local recruiting agents involved are directed to settle the dispute by taking up the matter with the foreign employer. In the event of non-compliance of directions by the recruiting agents, action is taken to suspend/cancel their registration certificates. Foreign sponsors who violate the terms of employment contracts are placed in the 'Prior Approval Category" *{i.e.* black-listed). In addition, Indian Missions provide all possible help to the workers in alien countries.

Computerization of Treasuries in Karnataka

*169. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had announced in Bangalore that the Centre would finance the network portion of the project aimed at computerization of treasuries in Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when the Centre's share of the project would be released?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) The Government of Karnataka have been provided with financial assistance of Rs. 16 crores under the Eleventh Finance Commission Scheme for the upgradation of